

Message Text

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16

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E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS

REF : PAO LETTER NO.12

1. ATMOSPHERICS:

--TAIWAN NEWS MEDIA DEVOTED PREDOMINANT COVERAGE TO
DECEMBER 20 ROC LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS IN WHICH ALL 30 KMT
CANDIDATES WERE ELECTED FROM FIELD OF 61 VYING FOR 37 SEATS.
ALL PAPERS EDITORIALY SAW ELECTION RESULTS AS IMPRESSIVE
AND ENCOURAGING, AND SAID RESULTS SIGNIFIED MORE SOLID
CONSOLIDATION OF PEOPLE BEHIND GOVERNMENT FOR ANTI-
COMMUNIST AND NATIONAL RECOVERY POLICIES.

-- ALL PAPERS ROUTINELY REPORTED DECEMBER 19 DEPARTURE OF
U.S. AMBASSADOR LEONARD UNGER FOR LEAVE AND CONSULTATION
IN U.S.

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-- ALL MAJOR PAPERS INCLUDING LARGEST-CIRCULATION UNITED

DAILY NEWS (380,000), INFLUENTIAL CHINA TIMES (350,000) AND OFFICIAL KMT CENTRAL DAILY NEWS (270,000) CARRIED COMMERCIAL WIRE COVERAGE ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB'S DECEMBER 17 TESTIMONY BEFORE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. ALL PAPERS STRESSED HABIB EMPHASIZED (1) U.S. TREATY OBLIGATIONS TO ROC, (2) DRAWBACKS TO U.S. ADOPTING JAPANESE FORMULA SINCE U.S. AND JAPANESE CIRCUMSTANCES MUCH DIFFERENT, (3) TIME NEEDED FOR ANY SOLUTION, (4) U.S. EXPECTATIONS OF CERTAIN PROGRESS IN RELATIONS WITH PEKING IN NEXT FEW YEARS, (5) ABSENCE OF PEKING PLEDGE NOT TO RESORT TO FORCE, ALTHOUGH NO SIGN OF ANY POSSIBLE MILITARY ACTION, (6) NO INTENTION BY EITHER U.S. OR PRC TO RETURN TO MUTUAL HOSTILITY AND (7) SLOW AND STEADY PROGRESS IN TRADE RELATIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND PRC.

-- PAPERS INCLUDING UNITED DAILY NEWS, CHINA DAILY NEWS (110,000) AND NEW LIFE DAILY NEWS (90,000) PROMINENTLY REPORTED ROC FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN'S DECEMBER 18 TESTIMONY BEFORE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF CONTROL YUAN ON ROC RELATIONSHIPS WITH U.S. AND ASIAN AND PACIFIC NATIONS. SHEN QUOTED AS SAYING NO NATION IN WORLD CAN BE FREE OF TROUBLES IN COMING YEAR SINCE COMPLICATIONS AND FRUSTRATIONS CONTINUE DOMINATE WORLD SITUATION. SHEN SAW NO SOLUTIONS MAJOR WORLD PROBLEMS, NO PROGRESS ON SALT OR DISARMAMENT TALKS AND CONTINUED COMMUNIST INFILTRATION IN ASIA, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND AFRICA. HE URGED FIRMNESS IN UPHOLDING NATIONAL PRINCIPLES TO OVERCOME ALL DIFFICULTIES.

-- IN DECEMBER 23 REPORT TO PLANNING COMMISSION FOR RECOVERY OF MAINLAND CHINA PROMINENTLY REPORTED BY ALL PAPERS, FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN REITERATED SIMILAR SENTIMENTS AND IN ADDITION STATED WAR BETWEEN U.S. AND SOVIET UNION IS STILL HIGHEST STRATEGY OF COMMUNIST CHINA AND PEKING'S ANTI-HEGEMONY TACTICS ARE ACTUALLY INTRIGUE TO ASSERT ITS OWN HEGEMONY OVER ASIA. SHEN SAID ROC STRONG ENOUGH MILITARILY AND ECONOMICALLY TO BE UNDEFEATABLE. CENTRAL DAILY NEWS DECEMBER 24 SUPPORTED SHEN'S ANALYSIS IN EDITORIAL AND THEN WENT ON TO ATTACK SELLING OF JET ENGINES TO PRC BY BRITAIN, WHICH PAPER CHARACTERIZED AS RECKLESS DEAL AND PLAYING WITH FIRE.

-- IN EDITORIAL COMMENT ON ANGOLA UNITED DAILY NEWS, CHINA UNCLASSIFIED

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TIMES AND CHINA DAILY NEWS SAW AS UNFORTUNATE AND SHORT-SIGHTED SENATE VOTES TO BLOCK MILITARY AID TO ANTI-COMMUNIST FORCES, IN WHAT WAS CHARACTERIZED AS INTERNAL STRUGGLE BETWEEN WHITE HOUSE AND CONGRESS WHICH HAS FURTHER ENCOURAGED SOVIET AMBITIONS IN AFRICA. UNITED DAILY NEWS EXPRESSED WORRY OVER FATE OF AFRICA AS A WHOLE AND DOUBT OVER U.S. ABILITY TO LEAD FREE WORLD. CHINA TIMES ATTRIBUTED NEGATIVE CONGRESSIONAL VOTES TO FEAR SECOND VIETNAM WAR WAS

IN OFFING.

-- NEWSWEEK INTERNATIONAL DECEMBER 15 BANNED, APPARENTLY
BECAUSE OF FORD-TENG COLOR COVER SINCE INSIDE CONTENT
SIMILAR TIME WHICH CAME THROUGH WITH ONLY MAO FACE BLACKED
OUT.

2. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:

-- POST HAS HAD SEVERAL VTR SHOWINGS IN MULTIMEDIA STUDIO
FOR JOURNALISM STUDENTS. MOST RECENTLY 15 JOURNALISM
STUDENTS FROM NATIONAL CHENGCHI UNIVERSITY LED BY CHINESE
REPORTER FOR AP VIEWED "POWER OF THE PRESS," "NEW DIRECTIONS
IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY" AND "INTERVIEW WITH ADMIRAL GAYLER."
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